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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q93245

Kohei ODA, et al.

Appln. No.: 10/568,754

Group Art Unit: Not yet assigned.

Confirmation No.: 6661

Examiner: Not yet assigned.

Filed: February 21, 2006

For: MICROORGANISM HAVING THE ABILITY OF DEGRADING AN AROMATIC POLYESTER AND METHOD OF DEGRADING AN AROMATIC POLYESTER BY USING THE SAME

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents and the International Search Report is submitted herewith, except for the following: U.S. patents and/or U.S. patent publications; and co-pending non-provisional U.S. applications filed after June 30, 2003.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date; (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action

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on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant submits the following explanations:

1. The disclosure on page 1 of the present specification for JP-A-2000-502412 and the submission of an English language abstract for corresponding WO 97/23684 A1 constitutes a concise statement of relevance of JP-A-2000-502412.
2. The disclosure on page 1 of the present specification for JP-A-2001-502014 and the submission of an English language abstract for corresponding WO 97/33001 A1 constitutes a concise statement of relevance of JP-A-2001-502014.
3. The indication in the International Search Report of the degree of relevance found by the foreign patent office and the submission of an English language abstract for JP-A-2000-143868 constitutes a concise statement of relevance of JP-A-2000-143868.
4. The indication in the International Search Report of the degree of relevance found by the foreign patent office and the submission of an English language abstract for JP-A-2001-299331 constitutes a concise statement of relevance of JP-A-2001-299331.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

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The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: May 22, 2006

Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTO		Complete if Known	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>		Application Number	10/568,754
		Confirmation Number	6661
		Filing Date	February 21, 2006
		First Named Inventor	Kohei ODA
		Art Unit	Not yet assigned.
		Examiner Name	Not yet assigned.
		Attorney Docket Number	Q93245
Sheet	1	of	1

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)		
		US 6,376,213		04-23-2002	Oda et al
		US 6,066,494		05-23-2000	Hsieh et al
		US 5,972,042		10-26-1999	Barfoed et al
		US			
		US			
		US			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation ⁶

Examiner Signature _____ **Date Considered** _____

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov, MPEP 901.04 or follow the hyperlink from the title of the document to the intranet. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.